

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

PRS-01 USIA-01 L-01 OC-01 CCO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 /040 W

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P R 171220Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCARST

TO AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7015

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 1364

LIMDIS

FOR HARRY GILMORE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RO US

SUBJECT: COMMUNICATION BETWEEN RFE AND EMBASSY

1. FEBRUARY 27 LETTER POSTMARKED IN MUNICH MARCH 1 FROM ROBERT R. KING, RADIO FREE EUROPE RESEARCH DIVISION, TO EDWARD A. MAINLAND, POLITICAL COUNSELOR, ARRIVED AT EMBASSY VIA OPEN INTERNATIONAL MAIL ON MARCH 16. LETTER BORE MARK OF OPENING BY ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES. TWO-DOLLAR PERSONAL CHECK FROM KING TO MAINLAND, WHICH LETTER INDICATED WAS ATTACHED IN PAYMENT FOR ROMANIAN BOOKS, WAS MISSING AND PRESUMABLY REMOVED BY ROMANIANS.

2. LETTER DISCUSSED (1) EMBASSY PERSONAL BOOKBUYING FOR RFE, (2) RFE RECEIPT OF UNCLASSIFIED AIRGRAM FROM EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION CONTAINING DATA ON ROMANIANS WHO RECEIVE U.S. VISAS, (3) KING'S PAPER ON BESSARABIAN QUESTION AND FACT IT HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO EMBASSY, (4) RFE'S INTELLIGENCE TO EFFECT SOVIET BOOK ON BESSARABIA HAD BEEN TRANSLATED AND DISTRIBUTED TO RCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND AMONG ROMANIAN COMMUNITY IN WEST. CONGEN NOT MENTIONED.

3. STANDARD PRACTICE HAS BEEN THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS, PRIVATE OR OFFICIAL, BETWEEN RFE AND POST ALWAYS CHanneled THROUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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AMCONGEN MUNICH (GILMORE) VIA CLASSIFIED POUCH, LIMITED OFFICIAL

USE OR HIGHER. OPEN MAIL IS NEVER USED. EMBASSY FINDS THIS BREACH OF SECURITY MORE DISTURBING THAN IT OTHERWISE MIGHT BE OWING TO RECENT ROMANIAN AND WARSAW PACT OFFENSIVE AGAINST RFE AND POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING LINKAGE IT ESTABLISHES BETWEEN EMBASSY AND RFE WHICH WILL MOST CERTAINLY IF NEEDLESSLY FEED SUSPICIONS OF ROMANIAN SECURITY ORGANS AND PROVIDE ROMANIAN PROPAGANDISTS WITH FODDER SHOULD THEY CARE TO USE IT.

3. ACTION: REQUEST GILMORE URGENTLY BRING THIS MATTER TO ATTENTION OF KING AND APPROPRIATE RFE MANAGEMENT SO THAT IT DOES NOT RE-OCCUR.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE, VISA REGULATIONS, PUBLICATIONS PROCUMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BUCHAR01364
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760100-0838
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760353/aaaabujv.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMUNICATION BETWEEN RFE AND EMBASSY
TAGS: PFOR, RO, US, RFE, (KING, ROBERT R), (MAINLAND, EDWARD AD)
To: MUNICH
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006